WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives have played a vital role in the life of our country, and their many contributions have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of America today; and

WHEREAS, by celebrating National American Indian Heritage month, we reaffirm our commitment to remember those contributions and to honor the unique heritage of our continent's first inhabitants, and

WHEREAS, this special observance reflects the rich heritage and great influence that American Indians and Alaska Natives have contributed to our nation's history and culture and also reflects our continuing commitment to American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments as an integral part of the social, political, and economic fabric of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Mayor and Council of Rockville, do hereby proclaim November 2009 as National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month, and urge all city residents to participate in this observance, thereby fostering the celebration of diversity and keeping strong the rich cultural foundation of our community.

Susan R. Hoffmann, Mayor

John B. Britton, Councilmember

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Anne M. Robbins, Councilmember

Piotr Gajewski, Councilmember